

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 881
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to honor Mertie W. Buckman.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those citizens who in their years of work and service have performed with extraordinary dedication and competence; and

WHEREAS, Mertie W. Buckman, co-founder of Buckman Laboratories, is one such outstanding citizen who has served with alacrity and acuity as a Memphis philanthropist; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Buckman exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, born in Lyme, New Hampshire, she is the 93-year-old widow of Dr. Stanley J. Buckman. Though her parents died when she was a teenager, she persevered with the help of her uncle and aunt, and received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Washington in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, she is a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, the First Lady of a multinational, specialty chemicals company, a community leader and former teacher, a living personification of the word philanthropist; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Buckman is widely associated with education in the Memphis area, donating millions of dollars to schools and universities; and

10000000

10000000

017577

01757736

WHEREAS, she is a trustee of Buckman Laboratories, an industrial specialty chemical company co-founded by her and her husband in 1945. Mrs. Buckman is also a trustee of Rhodes College and Christian Brothers University and serves admirably on the advisory board of LeMoyne-Owen College; and

WHEREAS, the vast awards and honors that Mrs. Buckman has received are beyond mentioning; she has received an Honorary Doctorate degree, the 1996 Community Service Award from the Memphis Rotary Club, the 1993 Humanitarian of the Year Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and the 1992 Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award from the Memphis area Civitan Clubs to name a few; and

WHEREAS, some of the organizations/schools that benefit from her support include St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; the Ronald McDonald House; the YWCA of Greater Memphis, Women's Foundation of Greater Memphis; the Girls Incorporated; the Boys and Girls Clubs of Memphis; St. Mary's Episcopal School; Christian Brothers High School; and St. Agnes Academy; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Buckman has been greatly supported by her late husband, her children, Robert H. Buckman and John D. Buckman, and all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mertie W. Buckman, is truly an inspiration to all Tennesseans and a remarkable model of responsible civic leadership and the utmost professionalism and compassion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor Mertie W. Buckman for being a light unto others and for making Tennessee a better place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

